

September 12, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Ex Parte Comments  
Directory Assistance Competition, CC Docket Nos. 99-273, 92-105, 92-237

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The National Consumers League would like to add its voice to those who call for more competition in wireline directory assistance services. Founded in 1899, NCL is a private, nonprofit advocacy organization. Its mission is to identify, protect, represent, and advance the economic and social interests of consumers and workers. NCL has consistently advocated for free and fair competition in the marketplace because it usually results in lower prices, better quality goods and services, innovation, and more choices for consumers.

Wireline directory assistance services are really no different than any other types of goods or services, and they should be treated in the same way. As with local and long-distance services, consumers should be able to choose among a variety of directory assistance providers and access those services with ease. NCL agrees with AARP and others that it is time for the FCC to take action to promote competition in this area.

Sincerely,

Susan Grant  
Vice President for Public Policy  
National Consumers League  
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